

Message Text

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SUBJECT: HARRIMAN VISIT

REF: BUCHAREST 5183

1. SUMMARY. FOUR-DAY VISIT OF GOVERNOR AVERELL
HARRIMAN TO ROMANIA TOOK PLACE IN EXTREMELY CORDIAL ATMOS-
PHERE AND CARRIED FORWARD FORMAL AND SUBSTANTIVE "GLOW"
THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED U.S./ROMANIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS
SINCE CEAUSESCU'S U.S. VISIT. HARRIMAN MET WITH
PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU AND FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI AND
PARTICIPATED IN ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AT ROMANIAN
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ACADEMY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES. TWO-DAY
VISIT TO BLACK SEA RESORT OF NEPTUN, WHERE CEAUSESCU
MAINTAINS SUMMER RESIDENCE, PROVIDED CONTEXT FOR
TALKS BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND U.S. SENIOR STATESMAN.
AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANIED HARRIMAN DURING ENTIRE PROGRAM.
END SUMMARY.

2. GOVERNOR HARRIMAN VISITED ROMANIA FROM JULY 21-25 AS THE GUEST OF MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, STEFAN ANDREI. HARRIMAN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. HARRIMAN, HIS GRANDSON, DAVID MORTIMER, AND MRS. HARRIMAN'S SISTER-IN-LAW, LADY DIGBY. THROUGHOUT VISIT, PARTY WAS GUIDED BY MFA WESTERN HEMISPHERE DIRECTOR, AMBASSADOR CORNELIU BOGDAN, WHOSE ATTENTIVENESS EMBODIED FULL BREADTH OF TRADITIONALLY RICH ROMANIAN HOSPITALITY.

3. FIRST EVENING, FOREIGN MINISTER STEFAN ANDREI CAME IN FROM BLACK SEA CONSULTATIONS TO HOST DINNER IN HONOR OF PARTY IN BUCHAREST. GUESTS INCLUDED MINISTER STATE SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ILIE RADULESCU AND OTHER SENIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS. FOLLOWING MORNING, JULY 22, GOVERNOR HARRIMAN WAS FEATURED IN ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION UNDER AUSPICES OF ROMANIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (ADIRI) AT ACADEMY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES. ROUNDTABLE WAS CHAIRED BY ACADEMY PRESIDENT, MIHNEA GEORGHIU, AND INCLUDED FOUR FORMER ROMANIAN AMBASSADORS AMONG SCORE OF SENIOR ACADEMICS. AMBASSADOR AND DCM SIMONS ALSO PARTICIPATED. AFTER MEETING, HARRIMAN GAVE BRIEF INTERVIEW FOR ROMANIAN TV, AGERPRESS AND MASS-CIRCULATION HISTORY JOURNAL MAGAZIN ISTORIC. VISIT WAS FRONT-PAGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STORY IN OFFICIAL DAILY SCINTEIA AND FEATURED PROMINENTLY ON BOTH TV AND RADIO. FOLLOWING ROUNDTABLE, AMBASSADOR OFFERED LUNCHEON IN HARRIMAN'S HONOR AT RESIDENCE.

4. EVENING OF JULY 22, PARTY DEPARTED FOR BLACK SEA RESORT OF NEPTUN. IT WAS HOUSED IN COMFORTABLE GUEST VILLA LOCATED FIVE MINUTES FROM SUMMER RESIDENCE OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU, AND EVEN CLOSER TO ANDREI'S VILLA. SUNDAY, JULY 23, WAS DEVOTED TO R AND R WITH NO OFFICIAL MEETINGS. HARRIMAN SPENT DAY IN PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS WITH AMBASSADOR, WHILE REST OF PARTY VISITED HORSE-BREEDING FARM IN MANGALIA AND VIEWED JUMPING EXHIBITION.

5. ON MONDAY MORNING, JULY 24, HARRIMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR, MET FOR ALMOST TWO HOURS WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT, HARRIMAN AND AMBASSADOR WERE LUNCHEON GUESTS OF FOREIGN MINISTER STEFAN ANDREI. HIGHLIGHTS OF BOTH SESSIONS WERE REPORTED IN REFTEL. PARTY RETURNED TO BUCHAREST THAT EVENING AND DEPARTED FOR BELGRADE ON TUESDAY.

TUESDAY MORNING, HARRIMAN BRIEFED COUNTRY TEAM ON RESULTS OF HIS VISIT.

6. COMMENT. GOVERNOR HARRIMAN RECEIVED UNUSUALLY CORDIAL RECEPTION BY GOR, IN KEEPING WITH HIS STATUS AS U.S. SENIOR STATESMAN. ALL MEETINGS WERE RELAXED AND INFORMAL BUT FRANK AND SUBSTANTIVE. VISIT IN EFFECT PROVIDED FITTING (TEMPORARY) CULMINATION TO STEADY SUCCESSION OF CANDID AND CONFIDENT EXCHANGES ON SPECTRUM OF INTERNATIONAL AND BILATERAL ISSUES WHICH HAS MARKED OUR RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA SINCE CEAUSESCU'S SPRING VISIT TO U.S. GOR, FROM PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU ON DOWN, CLEARLY APPRECIATED HARRIMAN'S THIRD TRIP TO ROMANIA (AFTER 1946 AND 1967) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN MOST AUSPICIOUS CLIMATE YET, AND HARRIMAN'S OWN WISDOM AND WIT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE SERVED TO SUSTAIN AND ENHANCE THIS SPIRIT. END COMMENT. AGGREY

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